

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 7 is added to show the customer product information storage device.

Attachment: New Sheet 1

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 14 have been examined and are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1-8 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,003,078 to Kodimer (hereinafter “Kodimer”). Claims 9-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kodimer in view of Microsoft Computer Dictionary in further view of Official Notice.

Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as allegedly failing to show every feature of the invention as specified by the claims. Applicants submit herewith new Figure 7, which shows the customer product information storage device 41 of server terminal 40, and amend the specification accordingly. The drawing is supported at least by page 8, lines 15-20. Thus, Applicants submit that new Figure 7 does not add new matter to the application and respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Kodimer. Applicants submit that the claims are patentable.

Previously, with regard to claim 1, Applicants pointed out that Kodimer does not teach or suggest that the alleged customer product information storage device (NIB 14) consecutively updates and stores a service status detected by the alleged service status detecting unit (copier 11). The Examiner asserts that Kodimer’s system is always detecting and updating the alleged service status. However, Kodimer does not teach a manufacturing point terminal which manages supply information of the computer peripheral as required by claim 1. Likewise, Kodimer does

not teach that the sales promoting terminal mediates the supply information sent by the manufacturing point terminal and demand information obtained from the customer product information storage device as required by claim 1.

Because Kodimer does not teach or suggest all of the features of claim 1, Applicants submit that Kodimer does not render the claim unpatentable.

Claim 2 recites features similar to those discussed above regarding claim 1. Thus, Applicants submit that Kodimer does not render claim 2 unpatentable at least for reasons analogous to those discussed above regarding claim 1.

Applicants submit that claim 3-8, being dependent on one of claims 1 and 2, are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kodimer in view of Microsoft Computer Dictionary in further view of Official Notice. Applicants submit that these claims, being dependent on one of claims 1 and 2, are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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